

Message Text

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ORIGIN AGR-08

INFO OCT-01 IO-11 ISO-00 STR-04 LAB-04 COME-00 FEA-01

CEA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 OIC-02

AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 /138 R

DRAFTED BY RSIMPSON;AGRICULTURE 2/9/76 :JT 395-6166

APPROVED BY CYEUTTER; STR

RANDERSON:AGRICULTURE

DWANAMAKER: LABOR

JHUDSON:AGRICULTURE

FMCELDOWNEY:STATE

TO'HERRON:STATE

JSTARKEY:STR

EGREEN:TREASURY;DSCHLECHTY:COMMERCE

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P 092331Z FEB 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL MTN GENEVA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD,EAGR

SUBJECT: U.S. POSITION FOR MTN DAIRY SUBGROUP: FEBRUARY 16

REF: A) MTN GENEVA 265; B) STATE 17854; C) STATE 240868

1. MTN DAIRY SUBGROUP WILL MEET FEBRUARY 16. AGENDA (REF A)
CONSISTS OF (1) CARRYING ON AND COMPLETING ANALYSIS OF
EXPORT AND IMPORT MEASURES (MTN/DP/W9) OF COUNTRIES PARTI-
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CIPATING IN SUBGROUP; AND (2) IN A SECOND STAGE, DEALING

WITH ALL THE ELEMENTS OF ALL THE PROPOSALS MADE BY COUNTRIES PURSUANT TO MTN/DP/2, PARAGRAPH 6. THE SECRETARIAT IS ALSO TO PROVIDE FOR THE MEETING REVISIONS OF MTN/DP/W9 AND A NEW DOCUMENT OF STATISTICAL DATA, MTN/DP/W/19.

2. MAJOR U.S OBJECTIVES IN MEETING ARE TO (1) AVOID CONFRONTATION WITH OTHER COUNTRIES SO THAT OVERALL PROGRESS AND MOMENTUM OF OTHER MTN GROUPS NOT JEOPARDIZED/ (2) CONTINUE TREND TOWARD DE-EMPHASIS OF FORMAL MULTILATERAL MEETINGS IN 1976 IN FAVOR OF BILATERAL AND PLURILATERAL CONSULTATIONS; AND (3) PRESERVE BALANCE IN WORK OF SUBGROUP SO THAT U.S. CONCEPT OF TRADE LIBERALIZATION IS GIVEN AT LEAST EQUAL WEIGHT WITH OTHER PROPOSED APPROACHES.

3. IN LINE WITH ABOVE OBJECTIVES, U.S. DEL SHOULD PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN EXAMINATION AND ANALYSIS OF COUNTRIES TRADE MEASURES. USDA HAS EXAMINED MTN/DP/W9 AND WILL SUPPLY DISCUSSION POINTS RELATING TO POLICIES OF MAJOR TRADING COUNTRIES. DEL MAY ALSO DRAW ON REF C FOR ADDITIONAL ANALYTICAL MATERIAL AND BACKGROUND.

4. IF IN SECOND STAGE OF MEETING, A COUNTRY MAKES MAJOR EFFORT TO OBTAIN SUBGROUP'S ENDORSEMENT OF NEGOTIATING APPROACH, OR OF SECRETARIAT TECHNICAL WORK ON AN APPROACH, BASED ON INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY AGREEMENT FOR DAIRY PRODUCTS, DEL MAY DRAW ON REF C TO POINT OUT UNDESIRABLE RESULTS OF PAST ATTEMPTS TO MANAGE INTERNATIONAL DAIRY PRICES. DEL SHOULD OPPOSE ANY AGREEMENT BY SUBGROUP THAT WOULD ORIENT FUTURE WORK IN DIRECTION OF COMMODITY AGREEMENT AND, IF NECESSARY, MAY PROPOSE AS AN ALTERNATIVE THE NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED BY U.S. IN OCTOBER GRAINS SUBGROUP (MTN/GR/W/4/ADD.1), NOTING ITS ADVANTAGES AS DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH 3, REF B (POSITION FOR FEBRUARY MEAT SUBGROUP MEETING). MOST DESIRABLE RESULT, HOWEVER, WOULD BE SUBGROUP AGREEMENT TO INFORMAL CONSULTATION PROCEDURES DURING PERIOD BEFORE NEXT MEETING, WITH NO COMMITMENT ON SPECIFIC FUTURE APPROACHES TO WORK PROGRAM (IN ACCORDANCE WITH PRECEDENT OF JANUARY GRAINS SUBGROUP AGREEMENT).

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5. SHOULD THE QUESTION OF U.S. GATT WAIVER FOR SECTION 22 BE RAISED, DEL MAY STATE THAT WAIVER IS A MATTER WITHIN GATT JURISDICTION AND NOT AN ISSUE OF DIRECT RELEVANCE TO THE MTN. U.S. HAS, OF COURSE, ALREADY STATED ITS WILLINGNESS TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES FOR LIBERALIZING DAIRY TRADE PROVIDING OTHER COUNTRIES ARE ALSO WILLING TO LIBERALIZE THEIR TRADING PRACTICES SO THAT OUR OWN INDUSTRY IS NOT PUT AT AN UNFAIR COMPETITIVE DISADVANTAGE.

AS APPROPRIATE DEL MAY ALSO DRAW ON RECENT U.S. DATA
CONCERNING DAIRY PRODUCT IMPORTS SUBJECT TO SECTION 22
QUOTAS FOR INFORMATION OF OTHER DELEGATIONS.

6. IF, IN ANY FURTHER DISCUSSION OF U.S. TRADE POLICIES,
QUESTION OF LEVEL OF U.S. DOMESTIC PRICE SUPPORT IS RAISED
IN CONNECTION WITH ITS IMPACT ON U.S. PRODUCTION AND
THUS TOLERANCE FOR IMPORTS, DEL MAY DRAW ON PARAS 2 AND 6
OF DISCUSSION IN REF C TO DEMONSTRATE REASONABLENESS
OF U.S. PRODUCTION POLICIES COMPARED TO THOSE OF OTHER
COUNTRIES. HE MAY ALSO NOTE RECENT VETO (FYI:UPHELD

BY SENATE ON FEBRUARY 4) OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION DESIGNE
TO RAISE DAIRY PRICE SUPPORTS AS EVIDENCE OF CONTINUING
U.S. POLICY TO ENCOURAGE DOMESTIC DAIRY PRODUCT CON-
SUMPTION AND AVOID THE BUILDUP OF HUGE AND COSTLY SUR-
PLUSES WHICH COULD HAVE INDIRECT IMPACT ON WORLD TRADE. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DAIRY PRODUCTS, MEETING AGENDA, COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE031823
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: 6166
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760049-0525
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760266/aaaacgjjg.tel
Line Count: 132
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN AGR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 MTN GENEVA 265, 76 STATE 17854, 76 STATE 240868
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 MAY 2004 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <03 JUN 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: U.S. POSITION FOR MTN DAIRY SUBGROUP: FEBRUARY 16
TAGS: ETRD, EAGR, OCON, US, MTN
To: MTN GENEVA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006